Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~lipid-regulating agent, which comprises~~ method for lowering lipids in a living body by use of a cyclic tetrasaccharide, represented by the formula of cyclo{→6)-α-D-glucopyranosyl-(1→3)-α-D-glucopyranosyl-(1→6)-α-D-glucopyranosyl-(1→3)-α-D-glucopyranosyl-(1→}, and/or ~~its saccharide derivative(s)~~ glycosylated compound(s) thereof ~~as an effective ingredient(s)~~ or a composition comprising one or more of them.

2. (Currently Amended) The ~~lipid-regulating agent~~ method of claim 1, ~~where~~ wherein said composition comprises one or more substances selected from the group consisting of a non-reducing saccharide, reducing saccharide, cyclodextrin, water-soluble polysaccharide, polyphenol, spice, acidifier, seasoning, alcohol, organic acid, organic acid salt, inorganic salt, emulsifier, flavor, and coloring ~~are incorporated into~~ togehter with said cyclic tetrasaccharide, represented by the formula of cyclo{→6)-α-D-glucopyranosyl-(1→3)-α-D-glucopyranosyl-(1→6)-α-D-glucopyranosyl-(1→3)-α-D-

glucopyranosyl-(→}, and/or said ~~saccharide derivative(s)~~ glycosylated compound(s).

3. (Currently Amended) The ~~lipid regulating agent~~ method of claim 2, wherein said non-reducing saccharide is one or more saccharides selected from the group consisting of maltitol, α,α-trehalose, and ~~a saccharide derivative of~~ glycosylated α,α-trehalose.

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~lipid regulating agent~~ method of claim 2, wherein said polyphenol is one or more ~~substances~~ flavonoids selected from the group consisting of ~~flavonoids such as~~ hesperetin, naringenin, querucetin, hesperidin, enzymatically-modified hesperidin, naringin, enzymatically-modified naringin, rutin, enzymatically-modified rutin, and proanthocyanidin; ~~and~~ or catechins ~~such as~~ selected from the group consisting of catechin and epigallocatechin.

Claims 5-8 (Cancelled).

9. (Currently Amended) The ~~lipid regulating agent~~ method of claim ~~8~~ 1, wherein said lipids in said living body is one or more lipids selected from the group consisting of free fatty acids, simple lipids (homolipids), compound lipids (heterolipids), lipoproteins, and free cholesterols.

10. (Currently Amended) The ~~lipid-regulating agent~~ method of claim ~~8~~ 1, wherein said lipids ~~in said living body~~ exist in one or more tissues or organs selected from the group consisting of blood, subcutaneous tissue, intracutaneous tissue, testis, kidney, heart, liver, and digestive tract.

11. (Currently Amended) The ~~lipid-regulating agent~~ method of claim 9, wherein said simple lipids (homolipids) are triglycerides.

12. (Currently Amended) The ~~lipid-regulating agent~~ method of claim 1, which is used for improving a lifestyle-related disease.

13. (Currently Amended) The ~~lipid-regulating agent~~ method of claim 12, wherein said lifestyle-related disease is one or more diseases selected from the group consisting of hyperlipemia, arteriosclerosis, angiostenosis, vascular blockage, hypertension, thrombosis, angina, cardiac infarction, cardiac incompetence, brain infarction, fatty incompetence, brain infarction, fatty liver, cirrhosis, adiposis, constipation, colon cancer, and diabetes.

14. (Currently Amended) The ~~lipid-regulating agent~~ method of claim 1, which is used for one or more objects of inhibiting the increase of weight, decreasing total

cholesterol, decreasing LDL-cholesterol, regulating the metabolism of lipoproteins, inhibiting the accumulation of lipids, regulating the metabolism of bile acids, and improving the intestinal function.

15. (Currently Amended) The ~~lipid regulating agent~~ method of claim 1, ~~which~~ wherein said composition is in the form of a pharmaceutical, medicated cosmetic, healthy food, food and beverage, feed, or bait.

Claim 16 (Cancelled).

17. (New) A lipid-regulating agent composition adapted for use for the substitution of lipids, comprising

a unit dosage form comprising a cyclic tetrasaccharide, represented by the formula of cyclo{→6)-α-D-glucopyranosyl-(1→3)-α-D-glucopyranosyl-(1→6)-α-D-glucopyranosyl-(1→3)-α-D-glucopyranosyl-(1→}, and/or its saccharide-derivative(s), in an amount sufficient to effect lipid lowering.